

(e) To prepare periodic statements of the financial operations of the committee and to make copies of each such statement available to growers and handlers for examination at the office of the committee;

(f) To cause its books to be audited by a public accountant at least once each fiscal year and at such times as the Secretary may request;

(g) To act as intermediary between the Secretary and any grower or handler;

(h) To investigate and assemble data on the growing, handling and marketing conditions with respect to kiwifruit;

(i) To submit to the Secretary the same notice of meetings of the committee as is given to its members;

(j) To submit to the Secretary such available information as may be requested;

(k) To investigate compliance with the provisions of this part;

(l) With the approval of the Secretary, to redefine the districts into which the production area is divided and to reapportion the representation of any district on the committee: *Provided*, That any such changes shall reflect, insofar as practicable, shifts in kiwifruit production within the districts and the production area.

§ 920.32 Procedure.

(a) Eight members of the committee, or alternates acting for members, shall constitute a quorum and any action of the committee shall require the concurring vote of the majority of those present: *Provided*, That actions of the committee with respect to expenses and assessments, or recommendations for regulations pursuant to §§ 920.50 through 920.55, of this part shall require at least eight concurring votes.

(b) The committee may vote by telephone, telegraph, or other means of communication, and any votes so cast shall be confirmed promptly in writing: *Provided*, That if an assembled meeting is held, all votes shall be cast in person.

§ 920.33 Expenses and compensation.

(a) Except for the public member and alternate, the members of the committee, and alternates when acting as

members, shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred by them in the performance of their duties under this part: *Provided*, That the committee at its discretion may request the attendance of one or more alternates, including the public alternate, at any or all meetings notwithstanding the expected or actual presence of the respective members and may pay expenses as aforesaid.

(b) The public member and alternate shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred by them in the performance of their duties under this part, and shall receive per diem compensation established by the committee.

§ 920.34 Annual report.

The committee shall, as soon as is practicable after the close of each marketing season, prepare and mail an annual report to the Secretary and make a copy available to each grower and handler who requests a copy of the report.

EXPENSES AND ASSESSMENTS

§ 920.40 Expenses.

The committee is authorized to incur such expenses as the Secretary finds are reasonable and likely to be incurred by the committee for its maintenance and functioning and to enable it to exercise its powers and perform its duties in accordance with the provisions of this part. The funds to cover such expenses shall be acquired in the manner prescribed in § 920.41.

§ 920.41 Assessments.

(a) As his or her pro rata share of the expenses which the Secretary finds are reasonable and likely to be incurred by the committee during a fiscal period, each person who first handles kiwifruit during such period shall pay to the committee, upon demand, assessments on all kiwifruit so handled. The payment of assessments for the maintenance and functioning of the committee may be required under this part throughout the period it is in effect, irrespective of whether particular provisions thereof are suspended or become inoperative. If a handler does not pay